

MNC-7005  
4 May 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau -- April

## I. GENERAL

A. The new bureau was officially opened on 24 April with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by U.S. Ambassador in Cyprus Richard Boehm, Deputy Chief of Mission [redacted], FBIS Director [redacted] STAT BBC Monitoring Service General Manager [redacted] and a large complement of bureau staff, and representatives from the Contractor and Architect. [redacted] and Ambassador Boehm both spoke on the occasion. The STAT ambassador briefly summarized the history of FBIS' association with Cyprus and concluded by noting that there had been recent efforts by "certain quarters" in Cyprus to misrepresent the nature of the FBIS mission here. Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony the bureau chief led the visitors on a tour of the bureau, describing the function of each section and fielding questions. A separate cable on the ceremony was forwarded to Headquarters.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Prompted by a pick-up report appearing in the 7 April edition of Nicosia's TA NEA, the bureau obtained a copy of the 6 April edition of the Athens paper I PROTI, which is not on regular coverage, to process a report that included the alleged text of a U.S. State Department "secret cable" indicating that the U.S. Government was aware of Turkish Cypriot plans to declare an independent state in Cyprus at least 5 days before the event in 1983.

2. The bureau stayed open past its usual COB on 3 April to cover the Phalangists' Beirut Voice of Lebanon for possible reportage on the fate of U.S. hostage Alann Steen. An anonymous caller claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine had contacted the station earlier in the day to report that Steen had died. The bureau closed with Wire concurrence once it was established that no further pertinent reports were forthcoming.

3. New coverage was added this month from Tehran Domestic Service in Persian. We picked up the 0445-0500 GMT "Developments on the Fronts" feature, which includes reports, interviews with combatants and commentaries. Initial coverage suggests high productivity.

4. In accordance with Headquarters' instructions, the bureau has begun to receive West Bank Arabic publications to serve as a backstop for Tel Aviv Bureau's coverage effort. Initial receipt patterns suggest an average lag time of 10-14 days.

5. Having previously checked Cairo television's second and third programs (as noted in our February monthly report), we concluded substantive checks of Cairo TV's first program in April. While we have added one feature, "The World in Your Hands," to experimental coverage with plans to continue its assessment, our initial conclusion is that the first program offers little coverage potential.

6. The bureau also completed a substantive appraisal of the clandestine Voice of Mojahed in Persian this month. We concluded that coverage is not currently merited, for several reasons: A) the station's newscasts rely very heavily on international press agency reports, with reports on Iran revealing neither unique sources nor perishable information; B) commentaries were predictably anti-Khomeyni, and monotonous in tone and substance; and C) reception is poor at best, the result of heavy jamming.

#### B. Communications

1. The bureau's primary circuits were down for 9.5 hours on 8 April as a result of satellite recharacterization. We relied on Telex as our backup commo system during this outage.

#### C. Lateral Services

1. The Embassy's regional security officer expressed appreciation for the bureau's alert on 10 April to reports of a march planned for 15 April by the Cypriot-Libyan Friendship Society to mark the first anniversary of the U.S. bombing raid on Libya. The relatively small march went off on schedule, with the demonstrators passing through the area of the bureau and the embassy without incident.

2. The bureau also acted voluntarily to ensure that the RSO was kept apprised of all reportage on investigations into the terrorist attack on a British military vehicle traveling on the road from Nicosia to Limassol on 20 April. The officer was very appreciative of the alerting calls and hand-carried material provided him.

#### D. Technical

1. Placement of antennas on the roof of our new facility has begun.

2. Equipment racks in the bureau's press intercept room and teletypist section were replaced with racks provided by the former Gulf Bureau. The racks that were removed have been renovated for use at our new site.

3. Equipment received: A Victor VPC-II computer system and Epson FX-85 printer, from Headquarters.

### III. Administration

#### A. Personnel

1. Bureau Chief [ ] returned to duty on 14 April following TDY to Headquarters to attend the annual Bureau Chiefs Conference and annual leave.

2. TDY RECD engineer [ ] departed the island on 24 April having concluded his oversight of the construction of our new bureau.

3. Senior Editor [ ] arrived PCS with his family on STAT  
April.

4. Arabic Senior Monitor [ ] underwent successful STAT  
surgery in London for the removal of a kidney on 8 April. He remains in  
London while recuperating.

#### IV. Visits

A. FBIS Director [ ] visited Nicosia 22-26 April for STAT  
consultations and to attend the 24 April opening ceremony for our new  
facility.

B. [ ] general manager of the BBC Monitoring Service, STAT  
came to Cyprus with his wife on 23 April, also to attend our opening  
ceremony. The Bowmans departed the island on the 27th.



STAT

~~Bureau Chief~~  
Nicosia Bureau

**ATTACHMENT:** Production Report

## Nicosia Bureau Production Report for April 1987

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	294710
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	134120
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	909

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	9370.00 min.	22260.00 min.	125.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)

CHINA			
Beijing in			
Persian to Iran	0		
CLANDESTINE			
(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in			
Arabic	15320		
(Clandestine) Radio Iran in			
Persian	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in			
Arabic	8280		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People in			
Arabic	1430		
CYPRUS			
Nicosia Domestic Service in			
Greek	8530		
Nicosia Television Service in			
Greek	320		
Nicosia APOGEVMATINI in			
Greek			480
Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in			
English			750
Nicosia ELEVOTHEROTIPIA TIS			
DHEFTERAS in			
Greek			0
Nicosia ELEVOTHEROTIPIA in			
Greek			910
Nicosia I SIMERINI TIS DHEFTERAS in			
Greek			400
Nicosia I SIMERINI in			
Greek			0

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Nicosia KHARAVYI TIS DHEFTERAS in Greek			0
Nicosia KHARAVYI in Greek			2400
Nicosia O AGON in Greek			170
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS TIS DHEFTERAS in Greek			630
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS in Greek			1280
Nicosia PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE in English			260
Nicosia TA NEA in Greek			390
Nicosia THE CYPRUS WEEKLY IN English			520
EGYPT			
Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic	26300		
Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic	990		
Cairo MENA in Arabic		48290	
Cairo MENA in English		5440	
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		16230	
GREECE			
Athens Domestic Service in Greek	13330		
Athens ATHENS NEWS in English			1170
Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			5120
Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek			620
Athens I PROTI in Greek			510
Athens KIRIAKATIKI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			0
Athens KIRIAKATIKOS RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			2430

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BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
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Athens RIZOSPASTIS in  
Greek

1070

## IRAN

Tehran International Service in  
Arabic

0

Tehran International Service in  
Turkish

550

Tehran Domestic Service in  
Persian

36360

## IRAQ

Baghdad in  
Persian to Iran

0

## LEBANON

Beirut Domestic Service in  
Arabic

23770

Beirut Voice of Lebanon in  
Arabic

13430

Beirut Voice of National  
Resistance in  
Arabic

6430

Ihdim Radio of Free and Unified  
Lebanon in

Arabic

0

Beirut AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA  
AL-DUWALI in

Arabic

0

Beirut AL-NAHAR in  
Arabic

0

Beirut AL-SAFIR in  
Arabic

0

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in  
English

0

## LIBYA

Tripoli Domestic Service in  
Arabic

0

Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab  
Homeland in

Arabic

350

## TURKEY

Ankara YANKI in  
Turkish

0

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Istanbul BULVAR in Turkish			1520
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			7200
Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish			0
Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish			0
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			3070
Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish			11120
Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish			5790
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian	6110		
Moscow in Greek to Cyprus	0		
Moscow in Greek to Greece	0		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	2600		
Baku Domestic Service in Azeri	670		
Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek	2770		
UNITED KINGDOM			
London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic			9400